

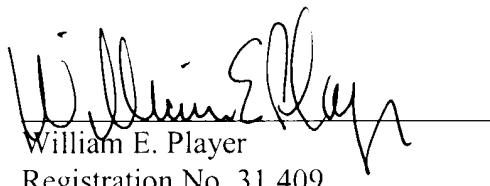
U.S. Patent Application No.: 09/582,328  
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Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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